



# European Cross-Border Skills

## Presentation of project results

<https://european-crossborder-skills.eu>

ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 2 - STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
2017-1-FR01-KA203-037470



Erasmus+



## ECBS: AN ERASMUS+ PROJECT

The *European Cross-Border Skills (ECBS)* project is a strategic partnership for higher education funded with support from the European Commission through the Erasmus+ programme.

**Beginning of the project:**

**September, 2017**

**End of the project:**

**December, 2020**

*(extension of 4 months due to the health crisis)*



Erasmus+





## GENESIS OF THE ECBS PROJECT

- Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour: **strong tradition of cross-border actions with Spanish universities.**
- Essential to **promote all the initiatives and to share experiences with other cross-border institutions in higher education:** seminar organized in 2015.
- Willingness to **create a network.**



**2017: UPPA proposed an innovative project around cross-border issues.**

**PAU** Douze regroupements transfrontaliers sont réunis jusqu'à ce soir à l'université de Pau-Pays de l'Adour pour partager les expériences et créer à terme, un véritable outil stratégique

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Ce que vit l'Université de la Grande région, partenariat entre les établissements de France, Belgique, Luxembourg et Allemagne ressemble-t-il à ce que vit l'UPPA impliquée dans des réseaux transfrontaliers avec les universités espagnoles ? Les difficultés sont-elles semblables, les mêmes freins financiers existent-ils, les doubles diplômes résultent-ils d'une même démarche ? C'est pour répondre à un certain nombre de questions et partager les expériences que sont réunis depuis hier et jusqu'à ce soir, à l'UPPA, douze regroupements transfrontaliers européens. Ce rendez-vous international qui réunit une centaine de professionnels est le point d'orgue d'Ebros 2020, un programme financé par la communauté européenne menée par les universités de Saragosse, de la Navarre, de la Rioja et de Lerida (réunies sous la dénomination de campus Iberus) ainsi que de l'UPPA et de l'université fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées.

« Une étape franchie »

La France, par le biais des universités de Pau, Bordeaux, Besançon



Les représentants des universités européennes, hier, dans le bâtiment de la présidence. PHOTO O.F.

sence du conseiller scientifique de l'ambassade de France en Espagne, Arthur Souce-Marianadin, du vice-président du Conseil régional d'Aquitaine, François Maitia et des présidents des universités de Pau (Mohamed Amara), Bordeaux-Montaigne (Jean-Paul Jourdan), de

un poste dédié à l'international a été créé, occupé par Émilie Desconnet, à pied d'œuvre pour ce séminaire. Trois réseaux sont désormais bien en place à l'UPPA qui touchent près de 160 000 étudiants : le premier avec l'université de Saragosse (Saragosse et Huesca) ; le second avec l'université du Pays basque

Une trentaine de co-tutelles de thèses ont également vu le jour. C'est aussi sur le volet recherche que les rapprochements peuvent être intéressants car finançables par l'Europe.

Le président palois, Mohamed Amara, estime qu'une étape « a été franchie ». Il envisage la création

*Sud Ouest, September 2015*



## ECBS PARTNERS

**Associate partner:**

**Crossborder area:**  
**FR - ES**

**Crossborder area:**  
**BE - DE - FR - LU**

**Prof en Poche**

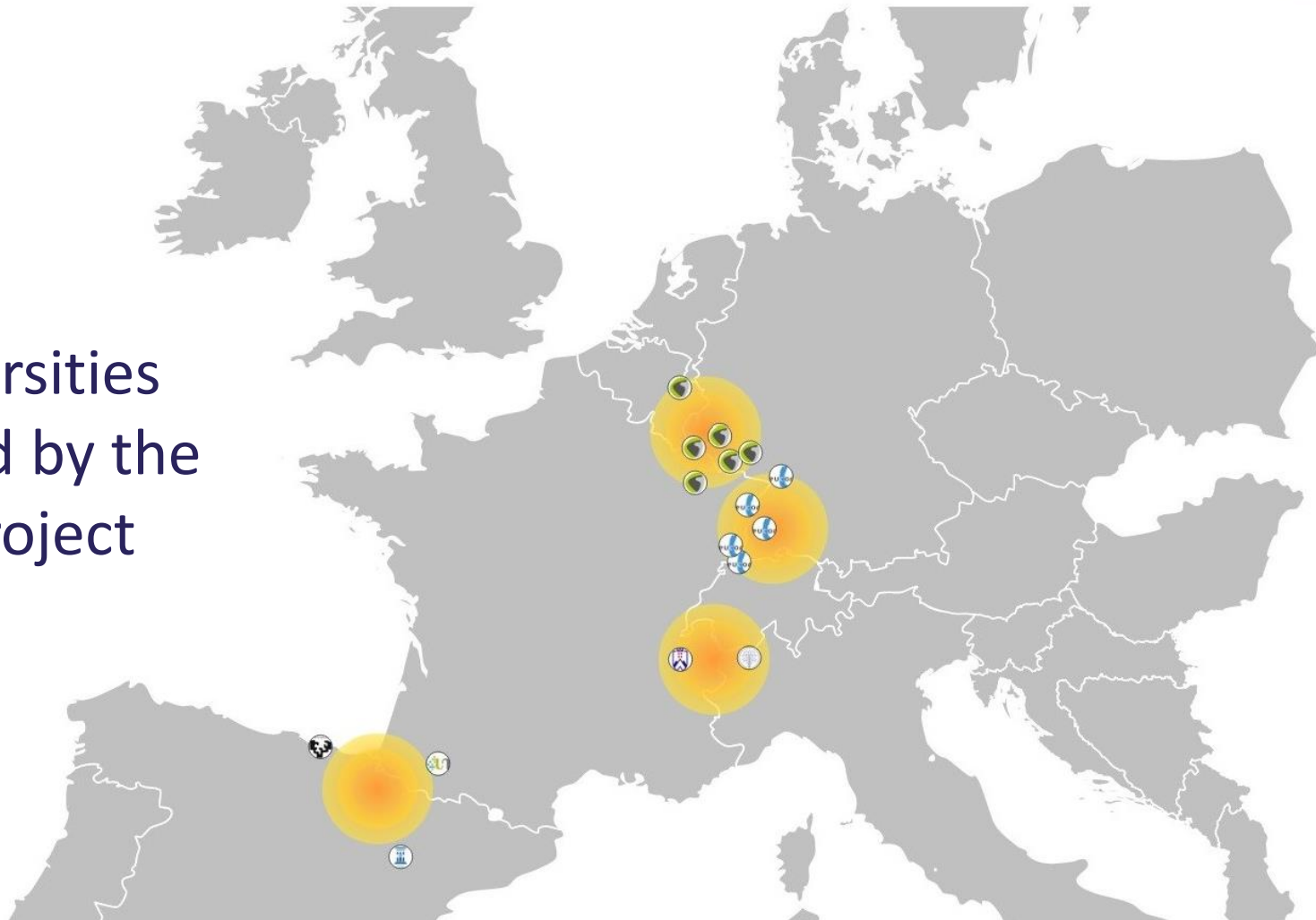
**Crossborder area:**  
**DE - FR**

**Crossborder area:**  
**FR - IT**





16 universities  
concerned by the  
ECBS project





## GOALS OF THE ECBS PROJECT

### Highlighting the knowledge and skills

developed by students and staff in connection with the cross-border geographical location of universities.

### Developing tools for articulating and assessing

the transversal skills developed in cross-border contexts.

### Facilitating the exchange of best practices among higher education institutions

involved in cross-border projects and collaborations.



## FOR WHO?

### First target audience: all the academic community

- Students;
- PhD students;
- Staff: administratives, professors, researchers.

### Second target audience

- Staff from local authorities;
- People in a longlife learning process.



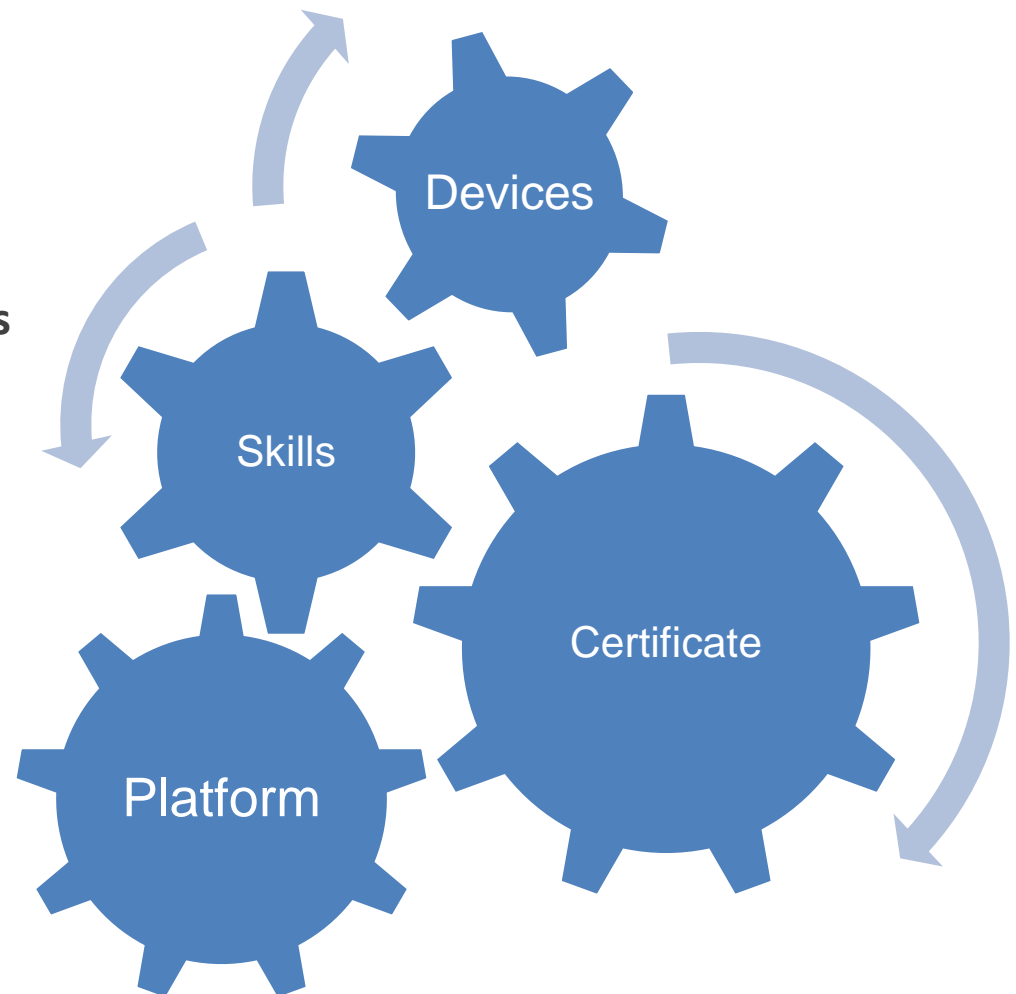
## INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS (IO)

**IO 1: Catalogue of existing devices and tools that allow the acquisition of cross-border skills**

**IO 2: Framework of cross-border skills**

**IO 3: Certificate of cross-border skills**

**IO 4: Platform**





# IO 1: CATALOGUE OF EXISTING DEVICES AND TOOLS THAT ALLOW THE ACQUISITION OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

## Methodology:

- Design of a survey,
- Online survey to collect data on devices (sent to all the persons in charge of cross-border programmes in each institution).

## Outputs:

- Production of a [PDF catalogue \(in English\)](#), available on the website of the project,
- Interactive catalogue, available on the platform.



CATALOGUE OF PROGRAMMES  
AND TOOLS DEVELOPPED  
IN A CROSS-BORDER CONTEXT

JUNE, 2020



EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER SKILLS PROJECT

## IO 2: FRAMEWORK OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

### Methodology:

- First draft of a framework on skills useful in a cross-border context,
- Face-to-face interviews to improve the framework,
- Collection of use-cases to illustrate the framework,
- Final version of the framework.



Skill	Definition
<b>Communication</b> 	-Articulating thoughts and ideas effectively in a cross-border setting using oral, written, and nonverbal communication for a range of purposes (e.g., to inform, instruct, motivate, and persuade) in a variety of forms and contexts, including multiple media technologies. -Listening actively and effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes, and intentions. -Expressing one's feelings, preferences, needs, and opinions in a way that is neither threatening nor punishing to another person. -Foreign language skills: understanding and speaking more than one national language. Facilitating communication in a multilingual context for oneself and others.
<b>Intercultural sensitivity</b> 	-Possessing factual and theoretical knowledge about culture-specific concepts (such as history, religion, politics, society, culture, environment, economy etc.). -Understanding culture-specific ways of behaviour and international/intercultural relations.
<b>Adapting</b> 	-Coping with uncertain, new, and rapidly changing conditions in cross-border settings, including different communication styles, cultures, and bureaucratic systems. -Handling stress related to change. -Changing one's own strategies to correspond to situational changes.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission through the Erasmus+ programme. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



### Output:

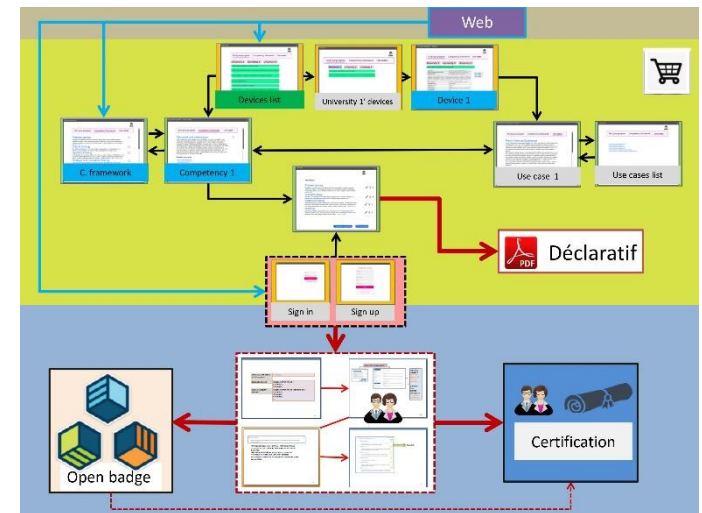
[Framework of 15 skills](#): available in 6 languages, both on the website and on the platform.



## IO 3: CERTIFICATE OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

### Methodology:

- Definition of a process to validate a skill,
- Definition of a certification scheme.



### Outputs:

- Validation map: non-public document (internal use), a tool for evaluators (for each learning outcomes: expected kind of evidences and evidence validation requirements),
- Certification procedure specific to each partner: annual calendar, certificate and/or OpenBadges.





## IO 4: PLATFORM

*Based on all the previous outputs*

### Methodology:

- Definition of the needs,
- Writing a specification notebook for the practical implementation of IO 3,
- Setting up the platform: implementation with moodle, rasa (chatbot) and mahara; design of the platform; implementation of OpenBadges,
- Test for improvement (based on feedbacks from staff and students).

### Outputs:

An online platform:

- Open to all with restricted functionalities (anonymous),
- Full access to users from members of the project.

Web: <https://app.european-crossborder-skills.eu>

iOs: <https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/european-cross-border-skills/id1537073504>

Android: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en\\_US&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en_US&gl=US)





## THE 5 DIFFERENT STEPS FOR THE USER



1. Explore (and understand) the 15 skills.



2. Select the skills supposed to have gained (self-evaluation).



*Virtual assistant*



*Use-cases*



3. Prove of the acquisition of the selected skills.



4. Submit the request for certificate (examination by a local committee).



5. Get (if applicable) the certificate.





## MULTIPLIER EVENTS

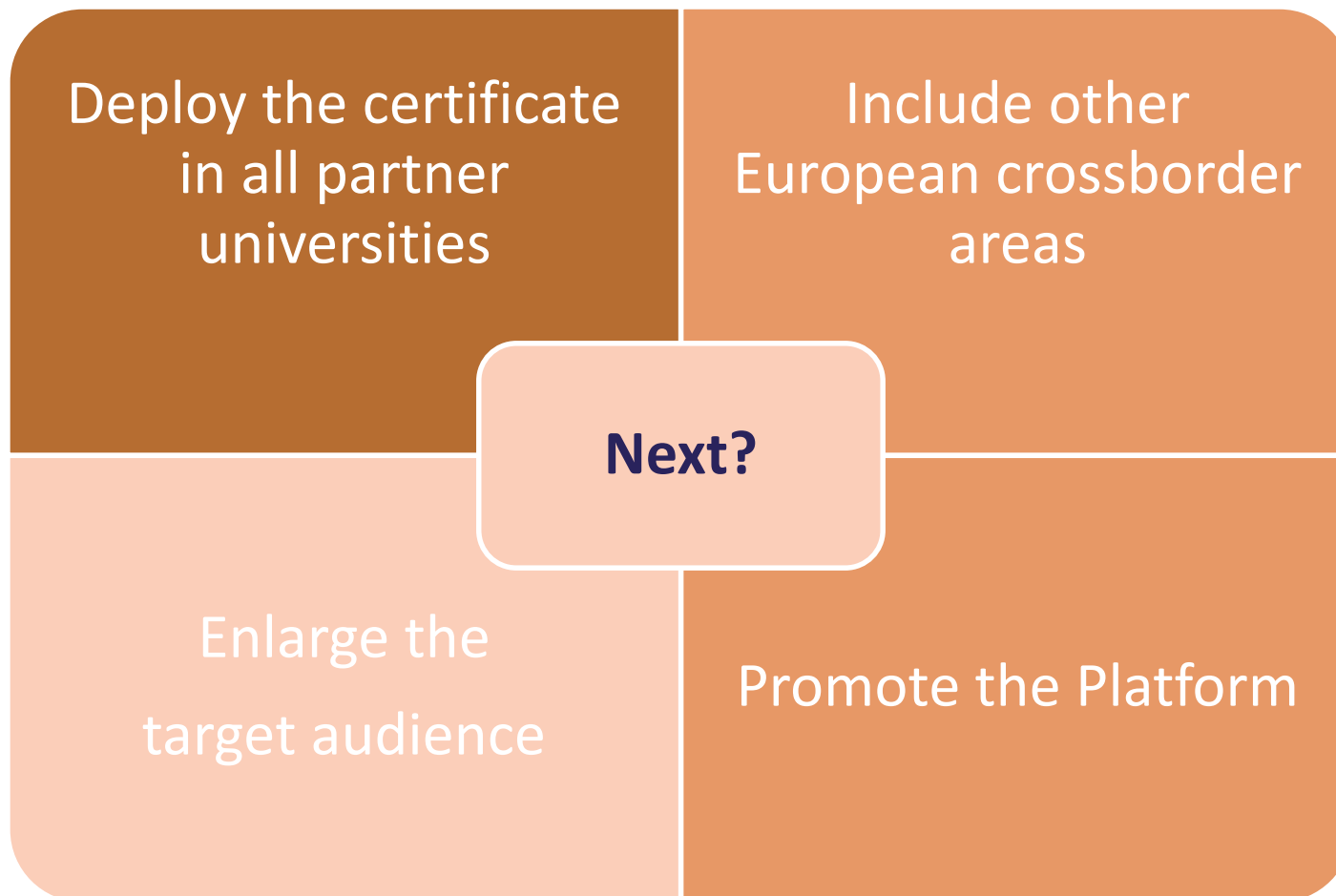
**8 events organized between September and December 2019:**

- Audience: students and/or PhD students and/or staff (academic and non-academic),
- From small group (to understand the framework) to larger one.





## THE FUTURE OF THE ECBS PROJECT





# Thank you for your attention

## Contacts

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## ECBS Web site

[www.european-crossborder-skills.eu/en/index.html](http://www.european-crossborder-skills.eu/en/index.html)

## Plateforme ECBS :

Web: <https://app.european-crossborder-skills.eu>

Appli iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/european-cross-border-skills/id1537073504>

Appli Android: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en\\_US&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en_US&gl=US)



## SOME MEMBERS OF THE ECBS TEAM



Transnational meeting, Organisation UNIGR (Saarbrücken, Germany), January 2020



Transnational meeting, Organisation UPV/EHU (San Sebastián, Spain), September 2018